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ON THE COVER
Owners John and Karrie Timm of Extreme Ski & Bike are shown with son Michael (center) in their store. (See page 10 for a story about this Thiensville business.) Photo: John O’Hara
Mequon-Thiensville Today is a community magazine providing useful information about the City of Mequon and the Village of Thiensville with news and feature stories about the people, businesses, places and events that make our communities very special places to live, work and do business.

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The deadline for advertising in the August 2016 issue of Mequon-Thiensville Today is July 1 on a space-available basis. For advertising information, email info@M-Tmagazine.com or call 414.962.7002.
A new life-saving program for 911 dispatchers in Ozaukee County, Emergency Medical Dispatch, has been implemented in Thiensville. The program’s goal is to help more people survive life-threatening emergencies, such as a heart attack or excessive bleeding, with information provided by the dispatcher answering a 911 call.

The new system is in place at the Ozaukee County and Grafton 911 centers. The Village of Thiensville became one of the first communities to benefit when this important emergency medical dispatch (EMD) program went live there on January 12. It will soon be available in Mequon and Cedarburg.

The program is already giving dispatchers the ability to provide vital, pre-arrival instructions over the phone to aid callers in life-saving efforts. In the past, a 911 dispatcher did not have the authority or training to give medical advice before paramedics arrived.

But every minute really does matter and the sooner a victim can get medical help, the better the chances of survival. For example, in cases of choking, the dispatcher can instruct the caller on how to perform the Heimlich maneuver. With a massive hemorrhage, instructions can be given on how to control the bleeding.

The statistics on cardiac arrest indicate that quick action can make a significant difference. According to the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation, only 10.6 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims survive. For every minute a person goes without CPR, the chance of survival decreases 10 percent. If cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) techniques are provided by bystanders and an automated external defibrillator (AED) device is available to treat victims before emergency personnel arrive, survival rates increase to 38 percent.

“The unfortunate reality is that many 911 dispatch centers across the country don’t provide pre-arrival instructions” says Dr. Steven Zils, Out-of-Hospital Medical Director and emergency physician at Aurora Medical Center in Grafton. “Updated guidelines released by the American Heart Association in October encourage dispatchers to provide chest compression-only CPR instructions to assist adults suspected of cardiac arrest. As we began to investigate this in Ozaukee County, it became clear the opportunity for our centers to interact directly with their first responder counterparts could save more lives. Now with the new system in place, there will be someone on the scene who can perform CPR and greatly increase the chance of survival.”

Dispatchers underwent a multi-week training program, including classroom time and hands-on simulations, to become proficient in the new EMD protocol. No additional staff has been needed to implement the program, and feedback has already been extremely positive.

According to Thiensville Fire Chief Brian Reiels, “This project is the result of the tireless work of Dr. Steven Zils and the financial backing of Ozaukee County and the Aurora Foundation. While still in the early phase of implementation, we all remain convinced that this new EMD protocol is absolutely the right direction to take to improve patient outcomes and recoveries.”

By mid-2016, the program is expected to be implemented in Mequon as well as Cedarburg. City of Mequon Chief of Police Steve Graff says that the new system will significantly benefit the community. “It’s an important program that can literally be a matter of life or death. Any time we can provide a better quality service to our residents and businesses, we do it. I am eager to get the EMD protocol working to save lives in Mequon.”

The “When Minutes Matter” initiative is a multi-dimensional program being led by the Aurora Medical Center in Grafton and the Aurora Health Care Foundation. The $650,000 campaign includes the new EMD system, along with plans to purchase an EMS support vehicle that can travel throughout the county to provide immediate, physician-led, on-scene responses to critical situations; expansion of community CPR training to ensure more people in the community are comfortable with providing CPR; the purchase of five AEDs (automatic external defibrillators) over the next three years for public places across Ozaukee County; and enhanced, pediatric simulation training for EMS providers.
Village Park Reimagined: Project Moves Forward

The Thiensville Village Park is a treasured heritage and a community committee is working to re-imagine the Park for the future. This group, comprised of private citizens and civic entities, was organized last fall to review and evaluate the Park as it is today – and its possibilities for tomorrow.

The committee meets twice a month to brainstorm ideas to revitalize the Park’s current amenities, investigate ways to enhance its year-round possibilities and find new options for making it a unique destination. Under consideration are a skating trail, farmers’ market infrastructure, and a new main entrance, an interactive fountain, playground updates and a band shell.

As part of their assignment, committee members visited several other parks in Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana for a first-hand look at what other communities have created. Successful, working implementations include a rock-climbing wall, a bamboo forest that provides a maze-type experience, climbing logs and nature hikes, an ice ribbon for winter skating that doubles as a splash pad and walking trail in the summer, and extensive sand and water play areas.

Each park provided innovative concepts for utilizing space that incorporate nature, physical play and reflection. The focus is on multi-generational enjoyment with year-round attractions for kids ages 1 to 100 years young. After visiting the parks, committee members were armed with ideas to think outside the “sandbox” as they develop a plan for Village Park.

With an eye on costs and funding, the committee is working with Village officials to establish a fund that dedicates money to park improvements and provides a tax-deduction mechanism for donors. They also are researching grant opportunities, and meeting with local service groups and organizations to get feedback, as well as discuss fundraising opportunities.

The next steps will include solidifying and prioritizing the master plan and presenting it to the Village Board. After approval, grants will be applied for, marketing materials developed and a fundraising campaign will be implemented.

As the committee moves forward, community input is vital in shaping the master plan. Your suggestions are always welcome.

CORRECTION: In the last issue (December 2015) of Mequon-Thiensville Today magazine, a photo credit was inaccurately given on page 18 of the Village Park Reimagined article. The aerial shot of Village Park at the top of the page was taken by Thiensville resident Andy Match.
The Main Street Rehabilitation Project will be launched this spring. By the time you are reading this issue of Mequon-Thiensville Today magazine, the project most likely will just be starting. And with cooperation from the weather, we hope to complete the work by the end of June, just before the busy summer season and in advance of Family Fun before the 4th.

Construction work will be split into three stages: Stage one will consist of the rehabilitation of the west side of the street, stage two will address the east side of the street, and stage three will entail work in the center lane. Main Street will remain open to traffic in both directions at all times during the project.

As you may recall, the project will include profile grinding of Main Street between the north and south borders of the Village. Also included is the creation of a more beautiful and welcoming commercial district, with the addition of numerous new amenities (trees and planters to fill in open spaces, upgraded LED street lights and enhanced Village monuments at north and south Village entryways). Improved landscaping is a major component of the facelift. For example, with landscaping on the medians following a common theme, with each median will have its own unique design. A mix of medium-sized trees, perennials, ornamental grasses and limestone will be used. The same landscape themes will also be implemented on some of the street corners, pedestrian crossings and parking lots.

In addition, the Thiensville clock at Main Street and Buntrock Ave. will be repaired. Originally installed in 1987, the clock recently stopped working and needs refurbishment. It will be completely overhauled and updated with a new timepiece and energy-efficient lighting. The work will be completed by The Verdin Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. This historical company installed its first tower clock in 1842, and has been in business for almost 175 years.

The final phase of the Main Street project includes replacing about 35 of the 90 concrete light poles in need of repair and installing new LED light fixtures on all the poles. The new fixtures will have the same style as the current fixtures, but will be much more energy-efficient and virtually maintenance free. The Village installed two of these new fixtures in front of Molyneaux Park several years ago to test them and get feedback from staff and residents. In the fall, landscaping of the islands and other areas will take place under a separate contract.

Thanks in advance to the community for its patience and understanding during the construction process. Please pay attention in the work zone for your own safety and the safety of construction workers, drivers and pedestrians.

We are all looking forward to a gorgeous new look along Main Street this summer to benefit residents, visitors and business owners.

FAST FACTS ABOUT THIENSVILLE’S MAIN STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT

WHAT: Regrinding of Main Street between north and south borders of the Village.
START: Early April
FINISH: End of June
DETAILS: During construction, Main Street will remain open to traffic in both directions at all times during the project. Two representatives from DOT will be onsite in the Village for the duration of the project to inspect the ongoing work and address concerns.
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Residents should refer to the Village website’s to obtain updates: village.thiensville.wi.us/projects.
“We carefully consider our clients’ criteria when creating functional spaces with comfort and beauty.”
Summer Tuesdays are terrific in Thiensville! That’s when everyone heads to The Market in Village Park to “Shop Local, Eat Local, Support Local and Get Social.” The 2016 season launches on June 14 and runs every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through October 25.

The Market’s main claim to fame is the healthy, fresh-from-the-farm fruits and vegetables from local farmers. But there is so much more!

• Meats, cheeses, coffee, seafood, honey and freshly baked goods.
• A taste-tempting variety of prepared food from vendors featuring Thai, American, German, French, BBQ and many other choices.
• Live music from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. spotlighting popular musicians such as Mathew Haefel, Seth Hoffman, Acoustic Blu, Haley Klinkenhammer.
• One-of-a-kind art and craft items created by talented local artisans.
• “Library in the Park” at 11 a.m. to engage children with fascinating stories and encourage learning to read, presented by the Frank L. Weyenberg Library.
• The Best “Dam” Chef competition from July 26 through August 23 with adults demonstrating their creative culinary skills.
• The Best “Dam” Jr. Chef competition on July 19 with kids competing for the top prize.
• A kids’ painting event (date to be announced).

• Free mammograms offered by the Columbia St. Mary’s van on several Tuesdays (dates to be announced).

NEW THIS YEAR!
The biggest outdoor market in southeastern Wisconsin keeps getting bigger and bigger with more than 60 vendors participating in 2016. An appetite-tempting variety of freshly prepared food will be available from favorite eateries such as the cheel, Falafel Guys, glaze! Ice Cream and many others. For home cooking, Big City Greens will have fresh, locally grown microgreens, mushrooms and more.

Visitors can expect a new look and more convenience. The Market’s layout has been completely reconfigured with vendor/entertainment placement on the grassy areas of the park, freeing up space on the asphalt for additional and more convenient parking. And everyone will welcome the good news that the new comfort station has been completed (no more porta-potties!).

“We appreciate our vendors, customers, volunteers and sponsors,” says Jesse Daily, director of the Village Market, and co-owner of the cheel, an award-winning restaurant in Thiensville. “Through their participation, involvement and enthusiasm, the Market has become a tremendous success attracting thousands of shoppers each week from Thiensville, Mequon and all over the Milwaukee area.”

Corporate sponsors and supporters (as we go to press) include Abraham Dental, Artisan Cooking Equipment, Columbia St. Mary’s, Conley Media, Elite Health Club of Mequon, Grace 242 Church, M-T Woman’s Club, Outpost, PNC Bank, Suburban Rental, Thiensville Business Association (TBA), Village BP, the Thiensville Fire Department and the Village of Thiensville.

Additional corporate sponsors for the 2016 season are welcome. And volunteers are always needed. Please contact Jesse at thiensvillefm@gmail.com to find out how you can be part of this exciting community venture.

The Thiensville Village Market has it all! This summer, plan to bring the family and join your friends and neighbors for dining, shopping, music or just visiting and relaxing in a beautiful spot. Mark your calendar NOW for the Village Market every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. starting June 14 through October 25. We’re looking forward to seeing you there!
The Village of Thiensville is pleased to welcome the following new businesses to its vibrant business district. Be sure to stop by and check out their exciting and diverse selection of products and services – and SHOP LOCAL!

**TWO TAILS GROOMING SALON LLC**
304 N. Main St. • 262.844.8659 • twotailsgroomingsalon.com
A full-service, dog-grooming salon that promotes a calming atmosphere for both the pet owners and their dogs.

**SEW WHAT DESIGN STUDIO & ALTERATION SHOP LLC**
140 S. Main St. • 262.292.1550 • sewwhatdesignshop.com
Offering sewing and other fiber-based classes and workshops, plus, open studio access and alteration services.

**FALAFEL GUYS**
105 W. Freistadt Rd. • 262.302.4122 • falafelguysmke.com
Serving fresh, authentic Mediterranean cuisine including a variety of vegetarian options – everything is made fresh daily!

**MITCHELL LEATHER FACTORY**
170 Green Bay Rd. • 262.272.5942 • mitchell-leather.com
Offering the finest leather goods made in the U.S. since 1968: briefcases, wallets and accessories, belts, watch bands, iPad cases and valet cases.

**MEQUON DANCE STUDIOS**
217 N. Main St. • 262.619.2700 • mequondance.com
Offering a variety of dance classes, from beginners’ courses to competitive training. Choose a private lesson, group class and/or fitness instruction.

**THE NORTH SHORE NICHE**
188 S. Main St. • 262.957.7126
Antiques and vintage clothing, jewelry and accessories.

*The North Shore Niche at 188 S. Main St. in Thiensville offers a delightful assortment of antique, vintage clothing and jewelry.*
Business Spotlight: Extreme Ski & Bike

PASSION FOR SKIING AND CYCLING DRIVES FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS

With more and more people of all ages concentrating on healthier and more active lifestyles, cycling is leading the way as a sport that everyone and anyone can enjoy. Ever since biking began to surge in popularity several decades ago, Extreme Ski & Bike has been in the forefront as a one-stop source for cyclists.

The Thiensville business got its start in 1994 when husband-and-wife team John and Karrie Timm opened their original store in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. Just two years later, they moved their business to Wisconsin to a space in Mequon’s Riversite Shopping Center. Still growing, in 1998 the shop moved to its present location on Main Street and soon sported a remodeled exterior facade and attractive new interior.

As active and avid cyclists and skiers, the Timms followed their passion with a dedication to make Extreme Ski & Bike the very best ski and bike shop. So now when bike enthusiasts stop by the store, they’ll find dozens and dozens of bikes on display; all models for adults and children, from the professional cyclist to the casual rider. “We are a full-service ski and bike shop,” boasts John Timm. “We carry more floor model bikes than just about any store in the Milwaukee area.”

Karrie Timm shares her husband’s enthusiasm and experience in the business. “And we offer so much more to our customers.” she adds. “We match every sale with our personal experience, knowledge of our products, follow-up and incomparable customer service.”

Part of that service is ensuring that every bike is optimally fitted to its new owner. “Whether you ride on road or off, pedal casually or competitively, bicycling is most comfortable and efficient when your bike and components are adjusted to fit your body correctly,” John explains.

Keeping up with the latest and greatest in bikes is another Timm commitment. “We are known as the neighborhood Trek store,” says John. “Our most popular-selling bike is the Trek Hybrid. Electric-assist bikes are another trend generating a lot of interest and fat-tired bikes are very popular.”

Along with a wide assortment of bikes, Extreme Ski & Bike has all the appropriate accessories and apparel to complement your ride. From the highest-quality helmets to the latest in breathable jerseys (some with convenient pockets and removable sleeves that adjust to changing weather). The shop also offers bike rentals, and scheduled summer group rides during the week for men and women as well as indoor training in the winter months.

Extreme Ski & Bike is also the go-to store in the area for ski equipment and accessories. Aside from a comprehensive selection for the novice to experienced skier, the shop offers annual ski and snowboard rentals, with affordable kids’ and adult downhill package skis as best sellers. Cross-country skis are also popular in Wisconsin, “That is, if we get snow,” jokes John.
With so much happening in the community, the Village of Thiensville invites you to keep in touch via the Village website and social media. Stay informed and don’t miss out on all of the community news as it develops. There are a variety of options to choose from:

- Sign up for “Notify Me” to subscribe and unsubscribe to only the information you are interested in. Receive calendar and news alerts by email or text message.
- Make online payments.
- Use “Let us Know” to leave a message.
- Click on “Community Voice” to share an idea or vote on an initiative.
- Follow the Village of Thiensville on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Village of Thiensville Contact Information

village.thiensville.wi.us

- EMERGENCY.................................................................911
- Administration .............................................................262.242.3720
- Building Inspections....................................................262.242.3720
- Clerk’s Office ...............................................................262.242.3720
- Police Department (non-emergency) ..................262.242.2100
- Fire (non-emergency) ..................................................262.242.3393
- Public Works.................................................................262.242.3720
SPRING PROGRAMS AT THE FRANK L. WEYENBERG LIBRARY

The Frank L. Weyenberg Library of Mequon-Thiensville offers a variety of fun and free programs for all ages throughout the year. Check out the events below that are happening this season at the Library. All the information is also listed on the Library’s website and calendar – visit flwlib.org.

CHILDREN’S EVENTS

Family Storytimes
Weekly storytimes every Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday at 11 a.m.
Storytimes include stories, fingerplays and songs. A responsible adult should be present and participation in storytime is highly encouraged! No registration is required, and all are welcome.
**Tuesday storytimes in the summer take place at the Thiensville Village Market.

LEGO Club
The last Monday of the month at 4 p.m.
April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, Aug. 29
For children ages 5 and up
Build up your creativity and LEGO skills at the Library! Share ideas, work together and make new friends as we focus on a new theme each month. Bring a friend, no registration required!

A Royal Tea Party
Friday, June 24 • 11: a.m.
For children ages 8 and younger
All princesses and princes are encouraged to dress their royal best and attend the Royal Tea Party in the Tolzman Community Room. Join us for special royal-themed activities, stories and treats! Registration is required. Dressing up is encouraged. Please contact the Reference Department at 262.242.2593, ext. 320 to reserve a spot.

Zoozort
Friday, July 8 • 11 a.m.
Join us for a wild introduction to the world of animals with Zoozort! Children will get to touch, feed and just feel comfortable around animals. They will find out what makes each animal special, where it comes from, what it eats and how it moves. For children ages 3-10. Registration is required. Contact the Reference Desk or call 262.242.2593, ext. 320.

The Science Alliance
Friday, July 22 • 11 a.m.
For children ages 5-12
Get charged up about science while witnessing chemical reactions and exciting experiments involving color changes, disappearing ink, a mysterious genie, gooey slime, springy super balls, and more! Children will have a blast learning about atoms, molecules, and chemical reactions, and enjoy a fun, entertaining presentation while learning about the wonders of science! Registration is required. Contact the Reference Desk or call 262.242.2593, ext. 320.

Jedi Training Camp
Friday, August 12 • 11 a.m.
For children aged 5-10
Put your ship into hyperdrive and come prepared in Star Wars gear to learn to use the Force and listen to Jedi tales of glory! Registration is required. Dressing up is encouraged. Contact the Reference Department at 262.242.2593, ext. 320 to reserve a spot.
ADULT EVENTS

Photography Workshop: Light and Composition
Wednesday, May 25 • 6 p.m.

Turn the ordinary into the extraordinary! Join us for a 90-minute photography workshop on light and composition. Featured photographer Walter Healey will conduct the workshop, which will include a walk-through of his photographs currently on display in the Library's gallery. Registration is required. To sign up, please stop in or contact the Reference Desk at 262-242-2593, ext. 320.

Cordelia Harvey: A Civil War Museum Theatre Performance
Wednesday, June 29 • 6 p.m.

A theatre performance from the Civil War Museum of Kenosha, Wis. After Wisconsin governor Louis Harvey's untimely death while visiting wounded soldiers near Shiloh, his wife Cordelia was appointed Wisconsin's representative to the Western Sanitary Commission. She traveled up and down the Mississippi River visiting Union hospitals, helping thousands of soldiers from Wisconsin and other northern states. During the performance, Harvey explains her travels on behalf of the Western Sanitary Commission and her dramatic meeting with a skeptical President Lincoln. Through perseverance and determination, she convinces President Lincoln of the merits of northern hospitals.

The Civil War Museum Theatre Program is recommended for adults and student audiences 4th grade and older. The program includes a 30 to 45 minute performance, a 10-15 minute question and answer session with the actor and a museum educator. This event is open to the public and no registration is required. Funding for this program is made possible through the Kenneth Jamron fund of the Weyenberg Public Library Foundation.

Author Terese Allen presents “The Flavor of Wisconsin”
Thursday, July 14 • 6 p.m.

Hear about Wisconsin’s culinary traditions, both past and present, and how these traditions reflect the richness of an ethnically and agriculturally diverse region. A Wisconsin native and author, Allen shares the history, stories and meaning behind such varied foodways as cream puffs, Hmong egg rolls and the Friday night fish fry. From Ojibwe wild rice to arugula pesto pasta, she tracks the amazing cornucopia of what Wisconsinites have gathered, grown, produced, cooked and eaten. No registration is required for this free program, and all are welcome to attend.

One-Room Schools
Thursday, August 11 • 6 p.m.

An educational program about the history of one-room schools and their role in Wisconsin. Author Susan Apps-Bodilly will talk about life in Wisconsin's early country schools, detailing the experiences of the students, the role of the teacher, and examples of the curriculum, including the importance of Wisconsin School of the Air radio programs. No registration is required for this free program, and all are welcome to attend.
What do the executive director of the Mequon Nature Preserve and the owner of Thiensville’s Shully’s Cuisine and Events have in common? Passion for their work, a dedication to excellence and associate degrees from Milwaukee Area Technical College.

Kristin Gies and Scott Shully are just two MATC graduates whose professional achievements have enriched not only Mequon and Thiensville, but much of southeast Wisconsin.

Kristin Gies Spreads Understanding of the Value of Nature and the Environment

Gies graduated from MATC in 2002 with a degree in landscape horticulture, a program based at MATC’s Mequon campus. She earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Concordia University where she serves as an adjunct professor, teaching botany courses.

In 2007, she accepted a job as preservation manager of the Mequon Nature Preserve. “At first, I did a little bit of everything, including planting trees, pulling invasive weeds and even cleaning,” she says.

Gies’ job grew as she developed the 438-acre education conservancy and natural habitat. She was formally appointed executive director of the preserve in 2012. She transformed an old building on the grounds into a state-of-the-art, energy-efficient, sustainable education center. More than 12,000 students from southeast Wisconsin visit the nature preserve annually, oftentimes getting their first chance to truly experience nature, Gies says.

“Sixty-five percent of the students who visited the preserve last year were from the City of Milwaukee,” she explains. “Kids come here terrified they will see bears and crocodiles. Many have never heard the sound of crickets. They leave here with a new understanding and totally addicted to nature.”

Gies credits now-retired MATC horticulture instructor Carol Bangs with “Lighting the ‘green fire’ in me,” she says. “She got me to sit in the woods, be quiet, and to feel and hear nature. That appreciation really prepared me for my current position. It’s our duty to take care of nature. We’re borrowing the land from our children. Some people write policies. I plant trees.”
Scott and Beth Shully Grow Booming Catering Business in Thiensville
Shully also believes his MATC training provided him a firm foundation for his career as a chef and caterer. He graduated from MATC in 1973 with an associate degree in what is now called the culinary arts program.

“MATC gave me a great baseline,” he says. “You have to learn the basics or you won’t be able to take cooking to the next level. I was able to apply the things I learned in school to my on-the-job training.”

“MATC gave me a great baseline... I was able to apply the things I learned in school to my on-the-job training.”

He spent his early career working at restaurants, including the English Room at the Pfister Hotel, Grenadier’s, Harold’s Restaurant at the Red Carpet Hotel and two hotels in Glarus, Switzerland. He then became a chef for Northwestern Mutual’s dining room, a job that allowed him free evenings and weekends for the first time in more than a decade.

During that time, he met Beth, the banquet manager at Nantucket Shores. They married and started their own catering business. “She has a different skill set,” he explains. “She looks at things with a different perspective. The two of us working together are able to make good strategic decisions.”

The catering business continued to grow, so Shully left his Northwestern Mutual job to concentrate full time on catering. The Shullys originally started their business in Lake Geneva, but moved to Thiensville in 1985. After years of hosting events in their seasonal Garden Pavilion in Thiensville, they built a luxurious 6,250-square foot, year-round reception/conference center on the premises. The nearly three-year-old facility, called The Watermark, can accommodate parties of up to 350 guests.

Shully’s Cuisine and Events handled 460 events last year, ranging from wedding receptions to corporate parties to huge events like the Garden Party at the Milwaukee County Zoo, which is attended by thousands of patrons. Shully takes great pride in ensuring that events run smoothly, showing great attention to detail and creativity. “I love catering,” he offers. “It’s always something new and different.”

Scott and Beth have 30 full-time employees and another 250 on-call staff. Their three adult children have joined the business as well. Shully has trained 13 MATC culinary arts apprentices over the years, six of whom now have their own restaurants.

“I love to surround myself with young people with a passion for the field,” he says of the apprentices. “I’ve helped put some very talented people in the business.”

Clearly, both Gies and Shully are paying it forward by sharing passions that were developed at MATC with Mequon, Thiensville and communities beyond.

MATC Mequon Campus
5555 W. Highland Rd. • 262.238.2200 • matc.edu
Dr. Wilma L. Bonaparte, Vice President
Summer semester classes begin Monday, June 13.
Stop by the campus to meet with staff and learn about our academic offerings!
E-Collectique LUXURY RESALE

Women’s & Men’s Designer & Vintage Fashions
Costume/Estate Jewelry
Gold, Silver, Platinum

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Thiensville, WI 53092
MONDAY-SATURDAY
10AM-6PM CST
(262) 242-2110
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www.e-collectique.com
stores.ebay.com/e-collectique-boutique

John O’Hara Photography

... because your Moments are Forever.

joharo20@att.net  414-679-6576
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ACT Increase: 24 to 29
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OZAUKEE COUNTY ON CANVAS JUNE 7-18

The Cedarburg Plein Air Event (June 7-18), the largest annual gathering of artists in Wisconsin, draws 150 artists from the comfort of their studios to paint the picturesque towns, beautiful landscapes and quaint countryside of Ozaukee County. The outdoor painting event culminates with a 3-day show and reception at the Cedarburg Cultural Center that is open to the public and free to attend.

This is a unique opportunity for serious art collectors, casual art enthusiasts, tourists and residents to buy unique, original art fresh off the easel. The exhibit of 500+ paintings opens at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 16 with paintings immediately available for sale. As each piece sells, new work will be hung, ensuring a fresh collection of art throughout the exhibit. Prices range from as little as $75 for emerging artists, to a few thousand dollars for nationally recognized artists.

“Few events actually provide an opportunity to buy a piece of art – literally wet off the easel – of your own community or Ozaukee County,” says event coordinator Anne Schoenenberger. “Many of our artists travel across the country, taking time away from family and work, to spend 12 days with fellow artists they see once a year. And they love painting here.”

For more information about the Cedarburg Plein Air Event, visit their blog at pleinaircedarburg.blogspot.com or visit cedarburgpleinair.com.
One year ago, the residents of Mequon and Thiensville approved a $18,200,000 facilities referendum for the Mequon-Thiensville School District. The funds are being used to upgrade much-needed facility infrastructure needs like new, energy-efficient windows, replacement of boilers and completion of roofing projects. The refreshed infrastructure is a worthy investment in our existing facilities. The return on this investment will last for generations and serves to make our schools more energy efficient, saving the District valuable funds that can be re-invested into the classroom to directly impact our children.

In addition, the facilities referendum will enhance the Instructional Media Centers (IMCs) at both middle schools, create new learning environments at Homestead High School, and includes major renovations to the Homestead High School auditorium, which will provide new seating, lighting and a new atrium and stage curtain. The use of mobile technology and digital learning will be the centerpiece of these revitalized areas. Students will be able to maximize their use of digital resources for conducting high-quality research projects and personalizing their learning. Likewise, the new middle school IMCs and Homestead Lecture Hall will have adaptable spaces that can transform from small-group to large-group learning environments capable of engaging students in interactive digital learning.

MTSD Director of Buildings and Grounds, Kyle Thompson, is managing a total of more than 200 projects associated with the facilities referendum. The District has partnered with Findorff Construction to coordinate and oversee the construction, and conducts weekly meetings with construction officials to ensure that the projects are on schedule and the budget is maintained throughout the course of implementation.

Thompson explains, “We are excited to be involved in the projects associated with the 2015 MTSD facilities referendum. The projects span across all seven buildings under the care of the School District. We are confident that the upgrades will enhance the overall experience for our students from a climate, instructional and safety perspective.”

The tentative deadline for completion of all referendum projects is August 29, 2016, with the exception of the Homestead Performing Arts Center. In order to allow access to the fine arts center for spring concerts and graduation ceremonies, this facility will remain open until the end of the 2015-2016 school year, with renovations scheduled for completion by November 1. Barring delay, all other projects will be completed before the start of the 2016-2017 school year, which begins on September 1, 2016.

According to MTSD Executive Director of Business Services Gail Grieger, “The investment of taxpayer funds into our facilities is never taken lightly by our administrative team. The District remains committed to ensuring that the facilities referendum projects are well-managed and implemented as drafted by our team of construction experts, architects and School District officials.”

Dr. Demond Means, MTSD Superintendent of Schools, is excited about the many improvements the construction referendum will provide for students. “The approval of the 2015 facilities referendum by the citizens of the City of Mequon and Village of Thiensville will positively improve the schools our children attend for generations,” Means says. “The infrastructural modifications will make our schools more energy-efficient, reducing our utility costs as a school district. We are excited to be in a position to coordinate these renovations for our children and the community.”
Jeridon Clark Named Administrator of the Year

The Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association (WEMTA) has named Mequon-Thiensville School District Executive Director of Information and Technology Jeridon Clark as its state Administrator of the Year.

Clark, who has served in his administrative role with the District since 2011, is responsible for expanding and infusing the use of technology in school classrooms. The award reflects his hard work, dedication and advocacy for MTSD students and staff members when it comes to access to instructional media and technology.

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Clark began his educational career as a math teacher at Homestead High School in 1996, also coaching football and the computer team. He also holds a master’s degree in computer science education from Cardinal Stritch University.

After serving as an associate principal and athletic director at New Berlin West High School for two years, Clark returned to MTSD in 2011 as executive director of information and technology. He has played a key role in providing 21st century educational experiences for students across the District.

WEMTA is an independent professional association serving school library media and instructional technology professionals.
On March 1, the Mequon-Thiensville School District welcomed three executive officers, including CEO Dr. Sandra Husk, from Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID). AVID is a system that aims to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success while providing instructional framework for teaching school curriculum. MTSD began implementing AVID at the high school level five years ago, three years ago at the middle schools, and just this year at the elementary level, becoming the first school district in Wisconsin to utilize AVID. The AVID College Readiness System accelerates student learning, uses research-based methods of effective instruction, and promotes meaningful and professional learning for teachers. The MTSD AVID program is led by former AVID Elementary National Program Manager, Trina Hayden.

“The systematic implementation of AVID has the power to transform teaching and learning,” Hayden says. “So for us, it has been very exciting to experience AVID’s integration into our District-wide culture. We have a tremendous opportunity to prepare all students for their post-secondary goals by providing them with a rigorous educational path while utilizing AVID’s research-based instructional strategies.”

Dr. Sandra Husk joined AVID in January 2014 after 17 years of implementing AVID in the three districts where she served as the superintendent. In her role as CEO, Dr. Husk is responsible for furthering AVID’s goals and strategic imperatives, including closing achievement gaps, accelerating the scalability of AVID as a school or district-wide system, developing technologies to enhance the student experience in AVID, and determining how the program can best serve districts.

During their visit, Dr. Husk, along with AVID Executive Vice President Dr. Lee Vargas, and Central Division Director Dr. Wendell Brown, toured two MTSD schools in order to watch the program in action and gain key insights into methods to grow their work nationwide. After a morning welcome from the Administrative Team at the MTSD District office, Dr. Husk, Dr. Vargas and Dr. Brown took part in a roundtable discussion regarding AVID’s impact at the high school level.

“The benefits of having AVID implemented at the Homestead High School have had a positive effect on all students in the building,” says math and AVID elective teacher Jen Zortman, “While the AVID elective course works to fine-tune students skills as they prepare for successful college experiences, the building-wide implementation of AVID strategies has been amazing. All students are receiving an education full of strategies that include inquiry, writing and reflecting, organization and focused note taking.”

The morning continued with a student-led tour of Donges Bay Elementary and Steffen Middle Schools, with special visits to Mrs. Hokeness’ 4th grade, Mrs. Strauss’ 5th grade, Ms. Janssen’s AVID 7 and Mrs. Lock’s AVID 8 classes.

For MTSD Superintendent Dr. Demond Means, the AVID visit was an excellent opportunity to truly showcase the system’s impact at MTSD. “It was a distinct honor to have AVID’s leadership delegation visit our school district,” says Means. “To be recognized for our efforts to implement AVID with a central focus on closing all achievement gaps affirms the organization’s approach to ensuring all students reach their full potential.”

To correspond with the March 1 AVID leadership visit, MTSD hosted a district-wide college day to promote college and career success awareness. Students and staff were encouraged to wear items depicting their alma mater or general collegiate pride. On April 22, MTSD will host the Spring Regional AVID Elementary Workshop for all school districts in the state that have AVID elementary.
Homestead Student Scores Perfect 36 on ACT Exam

William Clark, a 16-year-old junior at Homestead High School, received a perfect score on all four sections of the ACT exam, which includes mathematics, English, reading and science reasoning. Clark’s accomplishment is a rare feat that fewer than 0.04 percent of students across the country achieve.

“Throughout his high school career, William has distinguished himself as a diligent worker and a great thinker,” says Homestead Principal Brett Bowers. “This success is a tribute to his efforts and his drive to learn at the highest level.”

The Mequon-Thiensville School District community congratulates Mr. Clark for his outstanding achievement.

The ACT is a national college admissions exam that tests high school students across four subject-specific sections, with roughly 1.7 million high school students taking it each year. Homestead’s composite ACT score regularly outpaces the rest of Wisconsin. In 2015, the school had an impressive 25.9 composite, compared to the state public school average of 22.2. The national average ACT score in 2015 was 21.
Beginning in June, the Mequon-Thiensville School District will be offering academic opportunities in the areas of math, reading, and writing, as well as other critical thinking and inquiry-based courses, through its new Summer Academy. Helmed by MTSD Elementary Gifted & Talented Coordinator Lindsey Moore, the academy will consist of three, two-week-long sessions comprised of a variety of courses for students entering grades K-8, all taught by MTSD staff.

“We want to offer students an opportunity to extend their learning through the summer, and in a manner that correlates directly to the work that they do during the school year,” says Moore.

Hosted at Lake Shore Middle School, the Summer Academy is built to expand upon the summer enrichment programs traditionally offered by the Mequon-Thiensville Recreation Department. As in the past, the Recreation Department will continue to offer supplementary options in math, art, study skills, ACT workshops, engineering and more. However, Summer Academy courses are unique in that they have a direct tie to the District curriculum. If a student is signed up for multiple courses throughout the day, parents also have the option of allowing their child to remain at Lake Shore for a supervised lunch (though lunch will not be provided, so students should bring a bag lunch) to help cut down on the amount of required pick-up and drop-off times that often make summer a hectic time for families.

Course options will feature workshops in the core curricular areas including reading, math and writing, as well as interactive courses designed to promote student inquiry and critical thinking, including board games, creative building, crafts, coding, Google Apps and improv. Parents will register for courses based on the grade their child will be entering for the 2016-2017 school year.

“I am really excited to be able to connect with students during the summer and focus on the great skill sets associated with computer coding,” says Summer Academy instructor Monica Treptow. Treptow is the research and digital learning (RDL) specialist at Wilson Elementary School, and is just one of the many MTSD instructors involved in the Summer Academy.

Dates for each session run as follows: Session 1: June 20 through June 30, Session 2: July 11 through July 21, and Session 3: July 25 through August 4. All courses will be held Monday through Thursday, with a break during the week of July 4. The cost is $100 per course, though a $100 discount is available for any child who signs up for three courses in each of the three sessions (9 courses total).

The Mequon-Thiensville Recreation Department summer booklets, including a full listing of available courses, were mailed to community members the week of April 4. Registration is available online at https://webtrac.mtsd.k12.wi.us or in person through the MTSD Recreation Department.
MTSD Creates Customized Report Card

This year, the Mequon-Thiensville School District has created its own school report cards. For the first time in three years, the State of Wisconsin will not be releasing School or District report cards using the assessment data from the 2014-2015 school year. The absence of this information is due in part to the passing of a piece of legislation known as SB 67, or “the pause bill.” The bill stipulates that the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) shall not produce School and District report cards this school year.

The reason for the “pause bill” is mainly based on last school year’s implementation of Wisconsin’s new statewide test, the Badger Exam. After a problematic first year, the Badger Exam drew a wide range of criticism from parents, school districts and state policymakers. With its connections to the Common Core State Standards, state scores were anticipated to be lower than past years.

Though the state will not be producing official report cards, assessment results will still be posted publicly on WISEdash, the DPI school information and statistics website. In light of this “pause,” the Mequon-Thiensville School District has continued to work to provide accurate, timely student data that will be used to inform curriculum development and instructional practices. This will be released in the format of customized MTSD school report cards created so that MTSD educators and community stakeholders are still able to compare this year’s results with last year’s results.

Scores for the MTSD report card were calculated using formulas provided by the Department of Public Education from the 2013-2014 school year and reflect the same format as the state-published report cards. As was the case with the DPI’s report cards last year, the MTSD report card scores were calculated in four priority areas: student achievement, student growth, closing gaps, and on-track and postsecondary readiness. Based on the scores in each area, an overall score was also calculated for each school. Despite changes in the state assessments, scores for all schools remained high for the 2014-2015 school year.

“MTSD has continued to work to provide accurate, timely student data ... to inform curriculum development and instructional practices.”

According to MTSD Assistant Superintendent Matt Joynt, data is needed to inform instruction and provide focus for organizational improvement efforts.

“The quality of educational decisions is predicated on the availability of accurate and timely data and analysis that supports continuous improvement based on student learning and achievement,” Joynt explains. “This data is used to inform professional development that will build our organization’s capacity to apply information appropriately and productively in specific contexts, including at the classroom, grade/department, building, and district levels.”

Additional school data reports will appear in the District’s 2014-2015 Performance Report, which will be mailed to all community residents before the end of May.
Six teachers from the Mequon-Thiensville School District have been nominated for the Metropolitan Milwaukee Alliance of Black School Educators (MMABSE) 2016 Teacher of the Year Award.

“We are very pleased to have the opportunity to recognize several outstanding educators in our district and allow them to be honored at a regional level,” said Dr. Demond Means, superintendent of MTSD. “These great staff members are all doing exceptional work to further the mission of our high-performing school district.”

The MTSD educators nominated for the award include the following:
• Lauren Croix, MTSD Research, Data & Accountability Coordinator
• Lisa Gartzke, 3rd Grade Teacher, Donges Bay Elementary School
• Tracy Grace, Science/AVID Teacher, Homestead High School
• Katie Janssen, 6th Grade Teacher, Steffen Middle School
• Margreda Kukla, 5th Grade Teacher, Oriole Lane Elementary School
• Missy Vraney, Literacy Specialist, Wilson Elementary School

The MMABSE Teacher of the Year award is presented to an educator at each school in the Milwaukee Public Schools, along with other metro area schools. The teachers nominated will be honored at the MMABSE Teacher Recognition Gala May 7 at the Wisconsin Center in downtown Milwaukee.

Oriole Lane Elementary School has been named a “High Achieving School” on State Superintendent Tony Evers’ Wisconsin Title I Schools of Recognition list for the 2015-2016 school year. The annual list honors schools that have achieved success in educating students from low-income families. Eligible schools must receive some federal Title I funding to deliver services to large numbers or high percentages of economically diverse students, while meeting a number of other achievement standards.

Oriole Lane is one of just nine schools recognized as High Achieving this year, a list that included several other southeastern Wisconsin middle and elementary schools. To qualify, schools must have met all annual measurable objectives for achievement graduation, have achievement gaps lower than three points between student subgroups (or show evidence of reducing gaps) and demonstrate high levels of achievement at the school level.

Oriole Lane and the other 168 schools on the Title I Schools of Recognition list received a plaque at a March 14 ceremony at the State Capitol.

Math teams from Lake Shore and Steffen middle schools took part in the state MATHCOUNTS competition at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on March 5, with the Lake Shore team placing second overall. Additionally, Lake Shore student Andrew Wang qualified for the national MATHCOUNTS competition in Washington, D.C., which will take place May 7-10. Overall, MTSD accounted for 7 percent of the total students competing in the event.

“We are so proud of the bright young students of Lake Shore and Steffen, as they represented our school district and the Mequon-Thiensville communities in an exemplary manner at this recent competition,” says Matthew Joynt, MTSD Assistant Superintendent.

The Lake Shore and Steffen teams both qualified for the state competition after their impressive performances at the Greater Milwaukee Chapter competition in Glendale on February 6. There, the Lake Shore team took first and the Steffen team third, with seven out of the top 11 individual performances coming from MTSD students.

MATHCOUNTS is a national middle school competitive mathematics program that promotes math achievement through a series of engaging contests.
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"Our mission of helping students develop in mind, body and spirit for service in the Church and world truly applies to patient-centered care."
Concordia University Wisconsin nursing student Megan Zusy found herself on a Tuesday evening in February engaged in discussion with about 10 other students in varying health care programs about a hypothetical patient, Mr. Lopez.

The students were given a case study that involved the 71-year-old Lopez, who maintained an active lifestyle for most of his life, but began suffering from chronic knee pain soon after retirement. When he wasn’t able to find much relief from pain medication, his physicians ultimately recommended he have knee replacement surgery.

Zusy and her group members, which included students in pharmacy, nursing, social work, occupational therapy, physical therapy and medicine, spent time evaluating the case and then communicating their assessments from the lens of their respective programs.

"It was helpful learning how to communicate with each profession because the more communication, the better off your patient is," Zusy says. "Just knowing more about your resources is definitely helpful for opening up lines of communication."

Interprofessional communication was a goal of the event, which brought together more than 200 other students pursuing degrees in one of Concordia’s six health and human services programs. Also in attendance were about 25 students from the Medical College of Wisconsin.

The event — one of four throughout the academic year — is part of Concordia’s budding Interprofessional Education (IPE) program, led by Michael Oldani, Ph.D., MS.

"If students learn to rely on their team members, on other professionals, they’re going to have a lot less burnout and really be ready for a future career in team-based health care," Oldani explains.

"Research over the past decade shows that increased teamwork among health care professionals can significantly reduce errors, improve the patient’s overall quality of care and drive professionals to take a more patient-centered approach," says Oldani. Furthermore, because IPE has been strongly supported by organizations such as the World Health Organization and the Institute of Medicine, all relevant health programs are being accredited with IPE as part of their curriculum.

Concordia has set itself apart from other schools in many ways, says Oldani. “We’re unique in that we’re diverse enough in terms of our health professions offered, yet small enough that we can fine-tune and coordinate the experience,” Oldani explains. “I think the students still feel that it’s very student-centered, and they don’t get lost in the shuffle.”

As a Christian university, Concordia’s mission and some of its other programs, such as Lay Ministry, also provide an added opportunity.

“We can make it even a little bit more holistic than other places because of that,” says Oldani.

“Our mission of helping students develop in mind, body and spirit for service in the Church and world truly applies to patient-centered care,” he adds.

As the program grows, students’ IPE learning opportunities are expanding as well. "Concordia was already on the cutting edge in thinking about IPE and implementing it ahead of other institutions," Oldani says.

“What I think is evolving now for us is all these different professions here realize they can take a leadership role regionally. Our IPE efforts are a very strong recruiting tool, and that’s exciting for our students and faculty, and for our university.”

To learn more about Concordia’s IPE program and find opportunities, search “IPE @ CUW” at cuw.edu.

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Reverend Dr. Patrick T. Ferry, President
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MEQUON EARN 3 GFOA AWARDS FOR FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE

The City of Mequon Finance Department is well-respected for maintaining the highest standards of fiscal responsibility and reporting. The staff was recently honored with a Certificate of Recognition by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the U.S. and Canada for budget presentation.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is the culmination of hard work by the Finance Department, City staff and elected officials. To receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report conforming to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

“It reflects on the City’s goals of increasing transparency to stakeholders as a policy document, an operations guide, a financial plan and as a communication device,” explains Mequon Finance Director Tom Watson. “By attaining the GFOA award, Mequon sets an exceptional example to other governments throughout North America and is on the cutting-edge to improve the quality of budgeting.”

The City of Mequon joined only two other governments in the State of Wisconsin to receive three prestigious financial awards from the GFOA for Fiscal Year 2014, ending December 31, 2014. These awards were a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR), an Award for Outstanding Achievement for Excellence in Popular Financial Reporting (PAFR), and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. All state governments, county governments, townships, local governments, special districts, school districts and park districts in the U.S. and Canada are eligible to participate in the annual award program.

The CAFR award is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a governmental entity. It is judged by an impartial panel to meet the highest standards, which include demonstrating a constructive “spirit of full disclosure” to clearly communicate a financial story and motivate potential users to read the annual financial report.

The PAFR award (previously showcased in the August 2015 issue of Mequon-Thiensville Today magazine) recognizes conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

“We strive to not only meet, but exceed, standards for financial reporting and budget presentation and aim to earn the award for many years to come,” says Watson.

A copy of the PAFR can be downloaded from the City website at ci.mequon.wi.us.
THERE’S A MEQUON ROAD JUST WAITING TO BE ADOPTED

What does it take to make a community special? In Mequon, it’s all about residents who care! And here is another way to show our community pride. The Adopt-A-Roadway program (now in its second year) is a volunteer opportunity to “adopt” a section of a Mequon roadway and make a contribution to the community by picking up roadside litter. It’s a great way for local groups, schools, scout troops, churches, business or civic organizations, and families or neighborhoods to have fun together and possibly earn some recognition with Adopt-A-Roadway sponsor signs on their adopted section of their roadway. Last year these groups collected 200 bags of trash off of Mequon roads!

The cleanup schedule runs from April 1 to November 1. Check for complete details on the City website at ci.mequon.wi.us where the Adopt-A-Roadway program has its own page. Follow the link on the right side of the home page to the Adopt-A-Roadway page for a map of the available roadways, how to participate and an application form. Please note that there must be one adult leader for every six volunteers and all volunteers must be at least 11 years of age.

Spring is here – and so is the winter litter. Now is the time to get your group out in the fresh air and keep Mequon looking good! If you see one of these groups out picking up trash, please drive cautiously in their work area and thank them for their work!

ARBOR DAY FESTIVAL
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What’s more perfect than a visit to the park on a lovely day? Whether you prefer big community events, family fun, sports or a solitary stroll, Mequon Parks have it all.

The City of Mequon has 26 parks and nature preserves ranging from less than an acre to more than 400 acres totaling 1,183 acres of park and open space. Our parks invite discovery with beautiful scenery and many opportunities to be active – or to just sit and relax.

Mequon Parks offer many amenities to be enjoyed by adults and children of all ages. From walking trails and play equipment, to sport fields, canoe/kayak launches, basketball and volleyball courts, to an archery range and horseshoe pits, the range of activities is amazing. Our schools and organizations have plenty of places to meet for practices, games, and tournaments for soccer, baseball, football and lacrosse.

Lots of Gathering Spots
Planning a picnic in the park? Several Mequon Parks rent pavilions or shelters that can accommodate small groups or up to 200 people: River Barn Park’s Sommer Pavilion is available year-round and includes a kitchen and separate dining area. Rotary Park has several rental options. Its open-air South Pavilion is a casual picnic setting with a small kitchen and picnic tables overlooking a pond. The enclosed Reuter Pavilion can hold larger groups. It’s located next to Pukaite Woods where family and friends can enjoy walking the trails. The gazebo is also available to rent. Lemke Park has the newest open-air shelter, a good choice for picnics and family events.

Get in the Swim
Families can easily spend many summer days at the Mequon Community Pool. The large main pool includes a shallow and deep end, two diving boards and a swimming lane. Steps away, a zero-depth kiddie pool can accommodate parents and their toddlers. The Mequon-Thiensville Recreation Department also utilizes the pool for swim lessons. And back by popular demand is “Dive In” nights, when you can come enjoy a movie while you swim. The pool is open seven days a week.

The pool now offers a “Super Pass” that gives annual pass holders the option of paying an additional fee allowing them to use the Cedarburg, Grafton and Port Washington aquatic centers.

We Love Our Parks – And It Shows!
Mequon Parks benefit from the helping hands of many volunteers who make work fun doing chores like pulling garlic mustard, cutting buckthorn and general clean-up. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts have enhanced our parks with their donations of canoe launches, benches and park signs, and other amenities – often earning Eagle Scout awards through service projects. Grateful residents continue to make donations to add trees for shade and beauty, benches for relaxing, and much more.

For rental information on any of Mequon’s park facilities, please contact the Parks Department at 262.236.2945.

A Full Calendar of Community Events
There’s a park festival for just about every holiday. Annual events such as Pommerntag in June and Gathering on the Green in July offer top entertainment, food and fun at Rotary Park. In October the Mequon-Thiensville Sunrise Rotary Club sponsors Haunted Halloween with hayrides, games and activities for children.

The mission of the Park Board and Parks Department is to acquire, improve and maintain the City of Mequon’s park and open space for the purpose of providing active and passive recreational activities, land and water preservation and restoration, and environmental education for its residents. The various programs included are scheduling events, collection of fees, and the coordination of stewardship groups and athletic organizations.
SPRING IS FOR THE BIRDS

Bird City status is given to cities that promote a healthier and safer community for birds. This can be done through creation and protection of habitat, public education and reducing common hazards to birds. Bird City communities have found their conservation activities improve the local environment, strengthen the community and save money. Bird City Wisconsin has recognized 90 communities for their efforts, including Mequon.

For years, Mequon Nature Preserve volunteers and staff have played a crucial role in attaining Bird City status for Mequon by conducting monitoring and hosting events such as the Great Wisconsin Birdathon. The Birdathon is a collaborative fundraising event to support multiple bird conservation projects in Wisconsin. The goal is to count as many birds as possible between April 15 and June 15. It is a competitive, fun and educational event for any level of birdwatcher. For more information, visit birdcitywiscosin.org.

Since monitoring began in 2007, the number of bird species present at Mequon Nature Preserve has increased from 68 to 147. This increase can be attributed to the various restoration efforts practiced on the Preserve. By increasing wetland, woodland and prairie habitat, the Preserve is becoming a more valuable green space. Birds use the property for year-round residency as well as for breeding and migration stopover habitat. For a complete list of birds you can expect to see in Thiensville and Mequon this season, visit Mequon Nature Preserve’s hot spot on bird.com or contact Emily at 262.242.8055, ext. 107 (emilyb@mequonnaturepreserve.org). Emily also has information on volunteer opportunities.
MEQUON CLERK’S OFFICE Prepares for Big Election Year

With news coverage, debates and advertising coming from all angles, the one clear message is that 2016 is a big election year – locally and nationally. And when Mequon citizens turn out to vote, the Office of the City Clerk will be ready to meet the challenge.

It’s a busy time for the Department as the staff fine-tunes all the details that go into the election process including training election inspectors, and handling voter registration and absentee voting.

For the first time in 21 years, Mequon will introduce upgraded equipment to better serve the needs of voters. The newer technology will also improve the process of ballot tabulation and reporting election results.

“Every resident can be assured that we take their right to vote very seriously and do everything we can to protect that right,” says Caroline Fochs, Deputy City Clerk, whose many responsibilities include overseeing the voting process. “It is a privilege to vote and it is important for every adult to be informed and vote on Election Day.”

Joining Fochs in the City Clerk’s office is one full-time employee, Reggie Rogers, and two part-time employees, Kathy Andrykowski, and Domenica Erskine. Together they have a combined record of 26 years of dedicated service and experience in municipal government.

The City staff receive 50 hours of election training each year to keep current on the latest legislation. Over twenty mini-training sessions planned for election inspectors in 2016 will cover topics such as voter registration, provisional ballots and photo ID; a valid photo ID is now a requirement to vote in Wisconsin. The City staff is supported by 115 additional poll workers at eight polling locations; all participate in a yearly training session.

More citizen help is always welcome. If you are interested in becoming a poll worker or election inspector, please contact the Clerk’s Department at 262.236.2914.

Fochs believes residents will appreciate the updates. “Mequon is growing city in the midst of exciting change and this is just the beginning of what we can expect in the future with more technology including electronic poll books and online voter registration.”

Elections are just one of the many responsibilities of the City Clerk and the Department. It performs all duties as prescribed by Wisconsin Statutes, including issuing licenses and permits, maintaining papers and records of the City, attending all meetings of the Common Council and keeping records of proceedings. Residents can also request a variety of documents from the Department – requests for permits and licensures, including liquor, bartending and festivals. Their office is at Mequon City Hall, 11333 N. Cedarburg Rd.
There is nothing more all-American than the thrill of attending a baseball game. And it’s even more exciting to get out and root for the home team. That’s easy to do in our community because the Lakeshore Chinooks will be back to bring us another summer of affordable family fun at Kapco Park on the grounds of Concordia University in Mequon.

Baseball fans all recognize the MLB National and American League teams. But the Lakeshore Chinooks are in a league of their own, the Northwoods League. This 3-month-only, collegiate team league offers an opportunity for college players to hone their skills and display their talents to professional scouts. The athletes play under minor league regulations using wooden bats and specification baseballs, taking overnight road trips and playing nightly before fans. The season is intense with the Chinooks playing 72 games within a 77-day time frame – 36 home games and 36 away games. During the season, players stay with local host families. More than two dozen local families are needed each year to provide the student-athletes with room and board.

In addition, interns gain experience handling a variety of responsibilities at the games, such as ticketing, operations, on-field promotions and webcast production.

“We want to develop players who leave the Chinooks as better baseball players, but even more important as well-rounded, better men,” says Dean Rennicke, Vice President and General Manager for the Chinooks. The effort has been rewarding: since the team was organized just four years ago, 45 Chinooks’ players have been drafted by major league teams in a variety of positions.

The Chinooks play their home games at Kapco Park, located on the northeast corner of the Concordia University Wisconsin campus. Concordia’s baseball team uses Kapco Park in the spring. “So as well as developing student-athletes from all over the country, Concordia University now has a premier stadium for its own team,” Rennicke points out.

This state-of-the-art, $3.4 million dollar baseball facility that opened in April 2012 has a capacity for 3,000 fans in various seating areas. The ballpark has a synthetic turf field (except the pitcher’s mound) for consistent play throughout the year. It also has a fully functioning press box, dugouts, concession area and restrooms.

Kapco Park was the vision of Jim Kacmarcik, president of Kapco, Inc., the lead investor in Concordia’s baseball team uses Kapco Park in the spring. “So as well as developing student-athletes from all over the country, Concordia University now has a premier stadium for its own team,” Rennicke points out.

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Kapco Park was the vision of Jim Kacmarcik, president of Kapco, Inc., the lead investor in the team. Kapco, a metal fabrication and stamping company in Grafton, donated $1 million toward completion of the stadium.

Besides Kacmarcik, Chinook investors include Milwaukee Bucks’ general manager John Hammond, Milwaukee Brewers’ announcer Bob Uecker, Brewers’ legend and Baseball Hall of Famer Robin Yount – and an impressive lineup of business executives, creative minds and avid sports fans (see the full list of owners on the Chinooks’ website).

Fans are at the top of the Chinooks’ roster. “Providing a great experience for our loyal fans is one of our main objectives,” Rennicke says. Aside from enjoying some terrific baseball, fans have come to enjoy world-class food choices: applewood-smoked, grilled salmon sandwiches, foot-long cod sandwiches, calamari, beef brisket, pulled pork and make-your-own pizzas. Traditionalists will still find their sausage sandwich favorites from Usinger’s.

This year, there will be fan appreciation promotions throughout the season – from a “Salute to Cheese” night, to “Women’s Night” to a “Bobblehead” series of games featuring Uecker, Yount and Gill, the team mascot. Apparel and other items are for sale at the Tackle Box team store. Plus, several decks are available for larger groups, including a new deck that seats 150 people, a unique venue to rent for weddings and company picnics.

The 2016 season tickets are already on sale. The full-season, 36-game package includes all Chinooks’ home games, along with parking passes, a Northwoods League pass, a special giveaway, and an invitation to an exclusive season ticket holder event in May. Promotional incentives are also offered with other game packages. The Chinooks Charitable Fundraising Program is great for schools, youth sports, churches and non-profits. For $17, each package includes a game ticket, Chinooks hat and $5 back to your group’s fundraising needs.

The season is just around the corner – be ready for the first pitch! Buy your tickets today and experience this unique team, made possible by the amazing partnership of community leaders, generous investors, the City of Mequon and Concordia University. Thanks to all of them a dream became a reality.

For more information, call the Chinooks’ ticket office Mon.-Fri. from 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. at 262-618-4659. All league games are viewable live via the Northwoods League website. For more information, visit northwoodsleague.com.
Welcome to spring in Mequon and Thiensville! We are pleased to bring you another year of Mequon-Thiensville Today magazine to keep you well informed about our communities. The new season ahead is filled with exciting special events and opportunities – take advantage of all that Mequon and Thiensville has to offer – ENJOY!

1. From June 7-18, watch 150 artists descend on the community to paint outdoors. The Cedarburg Plein Art Event will focus on Ozaukee County, and culminate in a 3-day show open to the public (see page 17).

2. Family Fun Before the 4th takes place Sat., June 25 with a parade followed by a festival and fireworks at Village Park.

3. Area residents and guests enjoyed the Winter Frolic, staged by the Mequon Nature Preserve in February.

4. The Village Farmers Market in Thiensville kicks off another healthy season of fresh fruits and vegetables, live music and artisan marketplace and more every Tuesday starting June 14 through October 25 (see page 8).

5. The Lakeshore Chinooks rev up for the 2016 season, with support from stakeholders Bob Uecker and Robin Yount. The are joined here by their mascot, Gill, as all three will be featured in special bobblehead giveaway nights this season (see page 33).
**APRIL**

- **Mon., April 18:** Military Service Member Open Registration for Summer/Fall semesters. Visit matc.edu.
- **Tue., April 19:** Open Registration for Summer/Fall Semesters. Visit matc.edu.
- **Thu., April 21:** Homestead High School Tartan and Treble Choir Concert, 7 p.m. St. Joseph's Convent Chapel, 1501 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee.
- **Fri., April 22:** Earth Day, 5:30-7 p.m. Milwaukee Nature Preserve PieperPowerCenter, 8200 W. County Line Rd. Featuring John Gurda RSVP to center@meqonnaturepreserve.org or 262.242.8055, ext. 107.
- **Tue., April 26:** Homestead High School Chamber Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m. Mequon United Methodist Church, 11011 N. Oriole Ln.
- **Wed., April 27:** Annual Woodcock Walk with Dan Panetti from Wild Birds, Unlimited, 6:30 p.m. Visit meqonnaturepreserve.org.
- **Thu., April 28:** “Hairspray” 7:30 p.m. Todd Wehr Auditorium at Concordia University (performances also on Saturday and Sunday). Email lori.woodall@cuw.edu or call 262.243.2035.
- **Fri., April 29-Sun., May 1:** Homestead High School’s “Peter Pan” For more information, visit mtsd.k12.wi.us/homestead.

**MAY**

- **Sun., May 1:** The Alleluia Ringers Spring Concert, 3:30 p.m. Chapel of Christ Triumphant at Concordia University. Call 262.243.4405.
- **Tue., May 3:** Middle School Orchestra/Choral Concert, 7 p.m. Homestead High School Auditorium.
- **Sat., May 7:** Bird Count, 7:30-9:30 a.m. and/or 5-7 p.m. Part of Wisconsin’s Birdathon, a collaborative fundraising event to support multiple bird conservation projects in Wisconsin. Mequon Nature Preserve’s PieperPower Education Center, 8200 W. County Line Rd. Free and open to the public. Contact Emily at 262.242.8055, ext. 107.
- **Tue., May 24:** Graduate Visit Day at Concordia University. If you are interested in attending a graduate information session, please register at cuw.edu/visit. For more information, call 262.243.4300.

**JUNE**

- **Sat., June 4:** Bike Safety Day Special bike safety day for kids at Thiensville Village Park. Safety inspections and supervised practice using obstacle courses. Presented by the Thiensville Police Department.
- **Tue., June 7:** Annual Pillars of the Community Luncheon. Concordia University Environmental Center. Visit mcfgive.org.
- **Sat., June 7:** 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony for Lake Shore Middle School, 7 p.m. Homestead High School Auditorium.
- **Wed., June 8:** 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony for Steffen Middle School, 7 p.m. Homestead High School Auditorium.
- **Wed., June 8:** Bat Ecology Presentation, 6:30 p.m. Presentation followed by a hike with bat monitoring equipment. Mequon Nature Preserve’s PieperPower Education Center, 8200 W. County Line Rd., free.
- **Thu., June 9:** Last Day of School in MTSD
- **Thu., June 9:** Shully’s River Sounds, 7-10 p.m. Live music from Streetlife with Warren Wiegratz at Shully’s, 146 Green Bay Rd. in Thiensville. Free admission, bring two nonperishable food items for Family Sharing of Ozaukee County’s Pantry. Food/beverages available for purchase. Rain or shine – visit shullyscuisine.com.
- **Fri., Saturday and Sunday, June 10, 11 and 12:** 52nd Annual Lion Fest Thiensville Village Park.
- **Fri., June 10:** Join the Village-Wide rummage sale
- **Sat., June 11:** Gathering on the Green Outdoor movie night at Thiensville Village Park sponsored by the Thiensville Business Renaissance Committee (TBRC), free.
- **Sat., June 11:** Shelly’s River Sounds, 7-10 p.m. Live music from Streetlife with Warren Wiegratz at Shully’s, 146 Green Bay Rd. in Thiensville. Rain or shine – visit shullyscuisine.com.
- **Sat., June 12:** Graduation for the Homestead High School Class of 2016, 2 p.m. Homestead High School field house.
- **Mon., June 13:** Summer Semester Classes Begin at MATC Mequon Campus.
- **Tue., June 14:** Fishtown Art Festival at 35th Annual Parade in Fishtown. Food/beverages available for purchase. Rain or shine – visit thefishtown.com.
- **Mon., June 13:** Summer Semester Classes Begin at MATC Mequon Campus.

**JULY**

- **Thu., July 7:** Shully’s River Sounds, 7-10 p.m. Live music from The Whiskey Farm at Shully’s, 146 Green Bay Rd. in Thiensville. Rain or shine – visit shullyscuisine.com.
- **Sat., July 9:** Suburban Motors Block Party Annual celebration and block party on Main Street in Thiensville.
- **Fri., July 15:** Gathering on the Green Festival of the performing arts at Rotary Park in Mequon. Visit gatheringonthegreen.org (see pg. 9).
- **Sat., July 16:** “Cheel-abration” at the chees Field day at the chees’ parking lot/garden, 105 S. Main St. Visit thecheel.com.
- **Sat., July 16:** Screen on the Green Outdoor movie night at Thiensville Village Park sponsored by the Thiensville Business Renaissance Committee (TBRC), free.
- **Sat., July 23:** Family Fun before the Fourth of July Annual parade with festival and fireworks at Thiensville Village Park.

**AUGUST**

- **Thu., August 4:** Shully’s River Sounds, 7-10 p.m. Featuring the Eddie Butts Band at Shully’s, 146 Green Bay Rd. in Thiensville. Free admission.
Thinking Spring in
MEQUON and
THIENSVILLE

Mequon-Thiensville School District
5000 West Mequon Rd.
Mequon, WI 53092